

with his family when he was a small child. His family raised him there and instilled in him the values of honor, integrity, a love of his adopted land and a reverence for life and his fellow human beings.

At age 17, he left Oxnard and joined the Army. He trained to be a medic and a paratrooper. On March 16, 1966, in the jungles of Vietnam, Alfred was severely and repeatedly wounded as he crawled from comrade to comrade to render aid, to protect his comrades and to retrieve weapons and ammunition needed in the firefight they were in.

By the time Alfred was loaded into a helicopter, he was near death. A chaplain gave him last rites. He survived. Because of his efforts, so did his sergeant and at least one other in his platoon.

But the Medal of Honor Alfred was due was lost in red tape, until two years ago, when the record was corrected.

He returned to civilian life, became a naturalized citizen and rejoined the Army. After another tour of duty in Vietnam and achieving the rank of lieutenant, Alfred again became a civilian. But he continued to serve his country, with posts in the Department of Justice, where he served with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration and INTERPOL. Prior to his appointment as director of the Selective Service System, he served for five years as its Inspector General.

He is married to the former Carol Lee Richardson. They have two children.

Mr. Speaker, Alfred Rascon is a humble man who achieved greatness by quietly and unselfishly doing what he believed was right. He is the right man to head up the Selective Service System. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Alfred on his selection and give him our full support in achieving the goals of his new position.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ALVIN JACKSON, MD, A ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON COMMUNITY HEALTH LEADER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Dr. Alvin Jackson of Fremont, Ohio. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has chosen Dr. Jackson as a 2001 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's mission is to enrich the health and healthcare of all Americans. Their efforts promote healthier lifestyles, improved health care, and better access to health care. The Foundation seeks to ensure that all Americans have access to basic health care at reasonable cost and to improve care and support for people with chronic health conditions. The Foundation promotes health and prevent disease by reducing the harm caused by substance abuse—tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs.

Each year, the Community Health Leadership Program honors ten outstanding individ-

uals who have found innovative ways to bring health care to communities whose needs have been ignored or unmet. As one of the ten recipients of this recognition, Dr. Jackson and his program have been awarded a grant of \$100,000.

Dr. Jackson has been honored for his tireless efforts in providing health care to migrant workers in numerous Ohio counties. As Medical Director of the Community Health Services, Dr. Jackson travels by mobile clinic to reach the 8,500 migrant farm workers and their families. Dr. Jackson, the son of a migrant worker himself, takes the clinic from camp to camp providing medical care to those who would otherwise go without.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Alvin Jackson is an example for us all. He has recognized a problem in his community and has worked to solve it. I ask my colleagues in joining me in applauding Dr. Jackson for his efforts and selfless dedication to the care and well being of migrant workers and their families.

IN HONOR OF MS. SUSAN CULVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a fine individual and exceptional teacher, Ms. Susan Culver of Olmsted Falls Middle School, for her outstanding dedication to the education of young students.

Ms. Culver has spent the past few months organizing and planning a project for her seventh grade classes at Olmsted Falls Middle School. Because of her time and dedication to enriching her students, Ms. Culver has received a grant that will enable her to analyze and research pollution in the Olmsted Falls community. Over the past few years, air and water pollution have become important issues in Olmsted Falls, and Ms. Culver has taken it upon herself to analyze this problem. With the help of 140 seventh-graders, Ms. Culver will test pH levels in local ponds, analyze animal specimens, research the food web, and so much more. This program will give students an opportunity to experience their community in a hands-on environment.

This program materialized only through hours of hard-work, planning and researching. Because of her efforts, Ms. Culver's program has been chosen to receive a G.I.F.T., Growth Initiatives for Teachers grant. With this grant, Ms. Culver is offering students a wonderful learning experience that will broaden their educational horizons. Ms. Culver is also planning on taking courses at Cleveland State University about computers and will attend numerous conferences of the Environmental Education Council of Ohio.

Ms. Culver holds a bachelors degree in middle school math/science and is working toward a masters degree in instructional technology. In 1998, she began her teaching career as a tutor at Olmsted Falls Middle School and joined the full-time faculty in 1999. She teaches science in the classroom, but her influence extends much beyond simple biology and

chemistry. Ms. Culver is giving students information that is not only pertinent to where they live, but that will be relevant for their entire lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring a young teacher that is touching the lives of hundreds of students, Ms. Susan Culver. She has given her time and dedication to Olmsted Falls Middle School, and has earned the respect of students, faculty, and the entire Olmsted Falls community.

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, as our First Lady Laura Bush said in April of this year "Early reading isn't just good medicine, it's an important part of a child's daily activities. Children benefit greatly from reading activities starting at a very young age." Mr. Speaker, our First Lady is absolutely right!

Unfortunately, in the 2002 budget, President Bush cut all federal funding for a 35-year-old nationwide reading program. The program which is known as Reading is Fundamental (RIF) is supported through the U.S. Department of Education's Inexpensive Book Distribution Program (IBDP). RIF provides free, new books and family literacy services to 18,000 school and community sites with the vital help of more than 310,000 local volunteers.

RIF has a proven record and should not be destroyed or altered. For 35 years, it has given free paperback books to poor children in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. offshore territories. If the federal government gives states reading grants, as President Bush wants, there is no guarantee that this kind of program, which is badly needed, will continue.

My district of El Paso, Texas is an impoverished area of our country. Programs like Reading is Fundamental may not make much of a difference in more affluent areas, but they certainly do in El Paso. For some kids, a free book is the only access to reading that they have.

RIF programs operate in schools, libraries, community centers, child-care centers, Head Start and Even Start centers, hospitals, migrant worker camps, homeless shelters, and detention centers. Today, thanks to public-private partnerships, RIF is the nation's largest child and family literacy organization. RIF has placed more than 200 million books in the hands and homes of America's children.

Now, President Bush has proposed a five-year plan to improve young children's reading ability by cutting all funding for IBDP and consolidating the funding into state-level reading grants. This is simply not the answer. The answer is RIF.

I respectfully request that the Administration restore the RIF program in the 2002 budget. The RIF program is an example of a program that is working and making a real difference in the lives of countless children across the country. It would be a travesty to destroy it.

HONORING HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II
NERSISSIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His Holiness Karekin II Nersissian, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Karekin II traveled to the United States last month and visited Armenian churches, schools and a retirement home in Fresno, California and surrounding communities.

Karekin II was born in the village of Voskehat, in 1951, in the Etchmiadzin Region of Armenia. He entered the Theological Seminary of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin in 1965 and graduated in 1971. In 1970 he was ordained a Deacon, and in 1972 he was ordained a Celibate Priest. Karekin II then left for Germany to serve as a pastor, while continuing his theological education at the University of Bonn.

In 1979, Karekin II returned to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, and thereafter, left for Russia to study at the Theological Academy of the Russian Orthodox. In 1980, he was appointed Assistant to the Vicar General of the Araratian Pontifical Diocese. In 1983, he was appointed to Vicar General of the Araratian Pontifical Diocese. Karekin II was ordained a Bishop in October of 1983 and was granted the title Archbishop in November of 1992. In 1998, Karekin II was appointed to the Vicar General of the Catholics.

On Wednesday, October 27, 1999, Karekin II was elected as the 132nd Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Since his ascension to the head of the Armenian Church, Karekin II has actively rejuvenated the Theological Seminary. He has been instrumental in the construction of new churches and the building of St. Gregory the Illuminator Mother Cathedral in Yervan, Armenia. Many new priests have been ordained and assigned to churches in Armenia and Diaspora under the leadership of Catholicos Karekin II.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring His Holiness Karekin II Nersissian for his spiritual leadership to all Armenians.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL BEAZLEY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, a former colleague, and fellow South Carolinian, Paul W. Beazley. On July 16th, Paul will retire from South Carolina State government. It is a retirement well deserved and he will be sorely missed.

Before coming to this august body, I served as Human Affairs Commissioner for the State of South Carolina. I was fortunate to have Paul among my support staff. Paul joined the State Human Affairs Commission in January of 1973. Upon my arrival in October 1974, I named him Director of the Technical Services Division where he served for five years before becoming Deputy Commissioner.

During my nearly 18-year tenure at the Commission, Paul was an invaluable colleague, and became an expert on the issues of equal opportunity and diversity, particularly in the workplace. He supplemented his vast experience in this area with several published works including: Think Affirmative; The Blueprint, which became the leading affirmative action planning manual in the 1970's and 1980's. He recently wrote, The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission: A History, 1972-1977; and Who Gives a Hoot at the EEOC?, a public policy case study.

An active member in his community both professionally and personally, Paul currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Midlands Marine Institute, and is president of the Alumni Association of South Carolina State Government's Executive Institute. Paul is also chairman of the State Appeals Board for the United States Selective Service System.

In addition, Paul is a member of various professional associations, and works as a volunteer for many non-profit organizations. He is also a member of the Eau Claire Rotary Club of Columbia, and has served as President and Secretary of the National Institute for Employment Equity, and as Chairman of the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Family Services Center of Columbia, the Board of Visitors of Columbia College, the Board of Directors of Leadership South Carolina and numerous task forces at the state and local level.

Prior to joining the Commission in 1973, Paul was a Presbyterian Minister. He served as a pastor, a Conference center Director, and an Educational Consultant. He has also worked as a Consultant for the University of South Carolina General Assistance Center, teaching in the field of test taking and problem-solving. He designed an experimental school and directed an experimental reading program for the Columbia Urban League.

Paul received his Bachelor of Arts degree from East Tennessee State University, his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, and a Masters of Education from the University of South Carolina, where he also completed Doctoral studies. Paul is also a graduate of the South Carolina Executive Institute (1992), and Leadership South Carolina (1987).

Paul, a longtime resident of my current hometown, Columbia, South Carolina, is married to the former Marcia Rushworth. They have one son, Paul Derrick Beazley, who lives in Charleston. Paul is a competitive tennis player, and we share yet another common interest and pastime, golf.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting one of our nation's authorities on diversity, one of my State's most highly respected professionals, one of my Community's finest citizens, and one of my good friends, Paul W. Beazley, upon his retirement. Please join me in wishing him good luck and Godspeed.

**IN TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN
WALPOLE**

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join with my friend and col-

league, Congressman MIKE HONDA of the 15th District of California, in honoring a dedicated public servant. Stephen Walpole, Chief of Police for the Scotts Valley Police Department, will be retiring on July 6, 2001, bringing an end to 30 years of service to his community.

Chief Walpole is a constituent of Congressman HONDA, since part of Santa Cruz County is in his congressional district. However, Chief Walpole and I came to know each other well during my years serving in the California Assembly. His work on behalf of the residents of Scotts Valley is an amazing reminder of the importance of public service in our nation. When Chief Walpole's career began as a reserve officer in 1970 with the Scotts Valley Police Department his potential was quickly realized. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1974, Lieutenant in 1979, and Chief of Police in 1986. Besides his focus on the community of Scotts Valley, Chief Walpole has also served in several County and State-wide positions, bringing his experience and leadership to others in law enforcement and government.

Chief Walpole has also been the recipient of many awards and recognitions, including the Exchange Club Officer of the Year in 1973 and 1983; the Meritorious Service Award from the Scotts Valley City Council in 1989 for his efforts during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake which devastated many parts of Santa Cruz County; and was named as the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, when he retires on July 6, 2001, Chief Walpole will be leaving behind a three-decade legacy of excellence and professionalism. It has been a pleasure for myself and Congressman HONDA to work with him and other members of the Scotts Valley community, and it is an honor to be able to pay tribute to him here. We wish him well in his upcoming retirement, but we know that he will always remain an active member of the community.

HONORING JORDAN HENNER

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students, Jordan Henner. This young man has received the Eagle Scout honor from his peers in recognition of their achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 23 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100